THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) The existing TV transmitter functioning on 10 KW power at Bhopal is not expected to provide TV coverage to the entire State of Madhya Pradesh. Besides this transmitter, 53 transmitters of varying powers are providing coverage to an estimated 57.4% population of the State.

(b) and (c) It is proposed to link all the TV transmitters in the State of Madhya Pradesh with Doordarshan Kendra, Bhopal *via* satellite mode of linkage. Whereas the TV Studio Centre at Bhopal has been made technically ready, the Uplink Earth Station at Bhopal is in advanced stage of completion. The regional service will be introduced subject to the availability of adequate space segment capacity.

इलैक्ट्रानिक माध्यमों को सुझाव देने के लिए अन्तरविभागीय समिति

538. श्रीमती सरला माहेश्वरी : क्या सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या इलैक्ट्रॉनिक माध्यमों में प्रतिद्वन्दिता शुरू करने सम्बन्धी सुझाव देने के लिए कोई अन्तर-विभागीय समिति गठित की गई है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या इस समिति ने अपना प्रतिवेदन प्रस्तुत कर दिया है ; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो उस पर सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है ?

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्रालय में उप मंत्री (कुमारी गिरिजा व्यास) : (क) और (ख) जी, हां।

(ग) सरकार द्वारा रिपोर्ट की जांच की जा रही है।

Improving audibility of Urdu Service of AIR

539. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1091 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 21st March, 1990 and state the fresh steps Government have taken for improving the quality of audibility of Urdu Service of All India Radio for domestic listeners.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS) : There j s no proposal, at present, to change the basic character of the Urdu service of All India Radio from one directed to Urdu speaking audiences of the West and North-West Indian Sub-continent into one covering areas deep inside the country.

Anti-India propaganda from across the border

540. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA ;
SHRIMATI RATAN KUMARI :
DR. ABRAR AHMED :
CHOWDHRY HARI SINGH :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there is uninterrupted flow of anti-India propaganda from across the borders of Punjab, Jammu and Kashmir ;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government have been urged repeatedly to set up a T.V; Station at Jammu to counter this anti-India propaganda ;

(e) if so, by when a final decision in this regard is likely to be taken ; and

(d) whit other steps are being taken to counter propaganda by Pakistani electronic media ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS) : (a) The Government are aware of reception of foreign TV signals containing anti-India propaganda from across the border in areas adjoining Northwestern international border.

(b) and (c) In addition to the high power TV transmitter already functioning at Jammu, a Programme Generation Facility (PGF) Centre of Doordarshan at Jammu is under implementation.

(d) It is the constant endeavour of both Doordarshan and AIR to counter anti-India propaganda and to project India's viewpoint.

Committee on cable T.V Network

541. SHRI ARANGIL SREEDHARAN ; Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state ;

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have set up a committee on Cable T.V. network and dish antenna systems ;

(b) whether the committee has submitted its report ;

(c) if so, the main recommendations thereof ;

(d) whether it is also a fact that Government have drafted a concrete modality on cable T.V. network to lay down guidelines under the law ; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The main recommendations of the Inter-Departmental Committee to study various aspects of establishment of Cable TV Networks and Dish-Antenna Systems are given in the statement. *(See* below).

(d) and (e) The recommendations of the Committee are under consideration of the Government.

Statement

The main recom-mndations of the Inter-Departmental Committee are summarised below :—

1. The establishment of cable TV networks (without dish antenna) may be permitted after devising an appropriate regulatory mechanism to cover their operation both within private premises and across public property ;
2. The licensing of a dish antenna should be permitted only on the condition that the programmj received are nat redistributed through cable or otherwise ;
3. It is neeessiry to emct, a separate legislation which specifically addresses it self to rgulating cable TV network operations in the country ;
4. Sach an stuctmsat and the rules and orders issued there-under could also clearly bring out the licensing procedures to be observed in the matter of establishment of cable TV networks as also technical and other parameters within which these networks are to function ;
5. The omittee fe?ls that it will be appropriate that the functions of licensing are dslegated to the State Governments ;
6. The Comn'ttee recsmmsnds establishment of a National Cable Authority to coordinate all matters regarding regulation of cable TV :